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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, at dawn one hundred and eighty-five years ago tomorrow, Francis Scott Key saw the Stars and Stripes over Fort McHenry and wrote the stirring words of our national anthem that have moved our hearts to patriotism ever since. "O say does that star spangled banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

Yes, Lord, thankfully, it does. As our flag flies over the Capitol this morning, we commit ourselves anew to serve You by doing the strategic work of government and by leading our Nation through the present challenges in the way that pleases You. It is good to know that You are not surprised by the needs we bring to You. Help us to see that prayer is how You call us to do what You think is best rather than just a call for You to assist us with what we already have decided. Help us to wait for You, to listen intently to You, and to gain strength to carry out Your best for us, personally and for our Nation. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 13, 2002.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEAN CARNAHAN, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CARNAHAN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leader time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF JOSE E. MARTINEZ, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now go into executive session and proceed to the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 961, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jose E. Martinez, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, the nomination is confirmed.

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, I thank the Judiciary Committee for recognizing the needs of Florida and favorably reporting the nomination of Mr. Jose Martinez.

Jose Martinez's long and impressive legal career makes him an outstanding candidate. Beginning as counsel and now partner at Martinez & Gutierrez, Mr. Martinez has been associated with the firm since 1991. Jose Martinez has served as Assistant United States At-

torney in the Southern District of Florida, and Legal Officer for the United States Navy, Judge Advocate General Corps. He took a two-year leave from his firm to become the Regional Director for the Office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement of the United States Department of Justice.

Mr. Martinez received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Miami. He was the President of the highest honorary on campus, the Iron Arrow. His involvement with Student Government ranged from working in the Student Activities Office to becoming the treasurer of the School of Business.

Currently, Mr. Martinez is the vice chairman of the Federal Court Practice Committee of the Florida Bar. He is also a member of the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the Cuban American Bar Association, and the Hispanic National Bar Association.

In summary, Mr. Martinez is a highly regarded and qualified candidate for the federal bench.

I appreciate the Senate's consideration of Judge Martinez's nomination and appreciate the Senate's recent confirmation of Kenneth Marra and Timothy Corrigan, who will serve in Florida's Southern and Middle Districts, two of the largest and busiest judicial districts in the country.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2003

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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